



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/648,262	08/27/2003	Yoshiakira Yokoyama	56937-085	5228

7590 04/26/2006

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY
600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

DEBROW, JAMES J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2176

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/648,262	Applicant(s) YOKOYAMA ET AL.	
	Examiner James J. Debrow	Art Unit 2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communication: Application filed on 16 Feb. 2006.
2. Claims 1 and 2 are pending in this case. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sampath et al. (US 2002/0169803 A1; Filled Dec. 5, 2001).**

With regard to independent claim 1, Sampath et al. discloses a system for generating structured documents via a graphical user interface. Through the graphical interface, the user can *input parameters* to select the desired presentation, specifications, and format of the document from information derived from a database. (section 0023, lines 6-9; section 0025, lines 1-3; 401 in Fig 4; 404 in Fig 4). The database stores templates of documents (*group of data components with tags*). The system also consists a Document Generator that is connected to the database, which searches the database when specific templates are requested (section 0040). The Document Generator consists of three modules (112 in Fig 1b), a structure template transformer module, which takes document specifications as input and restructures, translates and *instantiates* the specifications into a structured document template (*template database part*) (section 0036, lines 1-4; 114 in Fig 1b); a document content filling operator module (*synthesizing unit*), which takes the document template as input and queries the database to fill the placeholders (*character train variables and data*

variable with a tag), and attribute placeholders inside the template (section 0036, lines 5-7; 114 in Fig 1b); a document maker module, which takes the generated document (*target document*) and publish it in a browseable book or file (section 0036, lines 8-9; 115 in Fig 1b). The documents that are generated from the stored templates can be of several types, ie. SGML, XML, or HTML documents (section 0016). It has been established that these type documents consists of *character train variables*, and *data variable with embedded tags*. Therefore, it can be concluded that the Sampath et al. database unit and the current invention database unit are constructed similarly.

Sampath et al. doesn't disclose expressly *an entity referring unit for searching the template database part, and the variable-content database part on the basis of the character train variable and the data variable with a tag*.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art that before the character train variables and the data variables with tags are instantiated within the template document, they would first need to be located within the database. The motivation for doing so would have been to determine if the template document structure is valid. Therefore, it would be obvious that Sampath et al. would provides a mechanism for searching the database to located character train variables and data variables with a tag that will be instantiated in the template document .

With regard to dependent claim 2, the claim incorporates substantially similar subject matter as in claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 16 Feb. 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Examiner responds to Applicants argument regarding independent claims 1, as follows:

Applicant argues Sampath does not teach or suggest an input interface that accepts parameter information used to generate definitions for character train variables and data variables with tags that are located in the template. While the predefined structures may include placeholders for content and attributes, Sampath does not disclose using input parameters to fill in these placeholders. Rather, it appears that the placeholders are already associated with a particular database entry. Thus, the system disclosed by Sampath does not enable a document to be generated dynamically in accordance with specification changes.

The Examiner disagrees with the Applicant, as mention in the previous rejection, Sampath et al. discloses a graphical user interface system is provided, supporting processing of a document specification file to provide information supporting generating a structured document (0023). Sampath et al. discloses the document structure template transformer takes document specification as input, restructures, translates, and instantiates the specification into structured document template including placeholders for content and attribute (0036). The Examiner's interprets, Sampath et al.

Art Unit: 2176

disclosure of "*the graphical user interface system is provided, supporting processing of a document specification file*", as suggesting the information that is provided in the specification file, it provided via the graphical user interface.

Sampath et al. further discloses the document generator can be designed for generating structured documents on-the-fly (*dynamically*) from the database (0038).

Sampath et al. discloses various methods of generating the document generation specification, and discloses other specification can be used (0038). The Examiner uses the broadest interpretation of this to include the graphical user interface.

Accordingly, as independent claim 1 remains unpatentable for the reasons set forth above, all respective dependent claims remain unpatentable based on the same rationale as stated above.

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

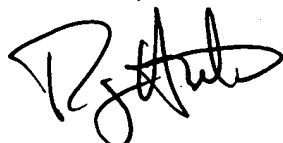
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Debrow whose telephone number is 571-272-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JAMES DEBROW
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2176

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hutton", written over a faint circular stamp.

DOUG HUTTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECH CENTER 2100